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**SYSTEM AND METHOD OF IMPLEMENTING  
A PROPHYLACTIC PACER/DEFIBRILLATOR**

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**ABSTRACT**

The prophylactic pacer/defibrillator is configured to deliver shocking therapy in response to a single episode of ventricular fibrillation, as well as delivering otherwise conventional pacing therapy. By providing "one shot" defibrillation capabilities a patient who is not at significant risk of ventricular fibrillation -- and hence is not a candidate for a full-service implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) -- can receive defibrillation therapy in the event ventricular fibrillation should nevertheless occur. Once the prophylactic pacer/defibrillator has delivered shocks to terminate the single episode of ventricular fibrillation, the patient returns to his or her physician to have the device removed and a full-service ICD implanted, so that any additional episodes of ventricular fibrillation may be addressed by the full-service ICD.